Remarks

Claims 1-5, 8-25, and 28-40 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 1-4, 8-14, 21-24, 28-34 and 37 are amended, claims 6, 7, 26 and 27 are canceled, and all other claims are unchanged. Claims 8-14 have been amended so as to depend directly from claim 1. Claims 28-34 have been amended so as to depend directly from claim 21. In addition, amendments have been made to claims 2-4, 22-24, 29, 30 and 37 for clarification purposes.

Applicants traverse the rejections of claims 1-6, 15-26, and 35-40. These claims have been canceled or amended to facilitate prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in a continuing application.

Applicants thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 7-14 and 27-34 are objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in claim 7, and therefore should be allowed. Claims 2-5 and 8-20 depend from claim 1 and should also be allowed. Independent claim 21 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in claim 27, and therefore should be allowed. Claims 22-25 and 28-40 depend from claim 21 and should also be allowed.

The Information Disclosure Statement filed July 13, 2005 (a copy of which is attached) has not been acknowledged by the Patent Office. Applicant requests that the examiner confirm that the cited references have been considered by initialing the Form 1449 and returning a copy to Applicant's attorney.

Also, the customer number associated with this application in PAIR has not been changed to 24197, as requested in the change of Power of Attorney filed January 20, 2005. <u>All correspondence concerning this application should be mailed to the address associated with customer number 24197.</u>

The present application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any further issues remain concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned to discuss such matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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